

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A text symbol entry system, comprising:

a display visually divided into a plurality of at least two functional areas including: [(,)]

a first of the functional area[[s]] corresponding to a first aspect of entering text symbols for displaying selected characters;

a ~~,~~ and a second of the functional area[[s]] for displaying candidate characters corresponding to a second aspect of entering text symbols; and

a third functional area for displaying at least a first stroke category and a second stroke category;

an indicator system operable by one human digit, the indicator system having at least a first cardinal state ~~corresponding to a first stroke category~~, a second cardinal state ~~corresponding to a second stroke category~~, and a third cardinal state, ~~the third cardinal state having no textual meaning associated with it;~~

a processor responsive to each cardinal state, whereby the indicator system may ~~be is~~ used to select between candidate characters in the second functional area and to select between said first stroke category and said second stroke category in the third functional area ~~options displayed in at least one of the functional areas;~~

a program controlling the processor so that ~~text symbols~~ characters are may be entered for display in the first functional area in response to a user:

indicating at least one desired stroke category from among the first stroke category and the second stroke category by moving the indicator system into the first

cardinal state or second cardinal state, thereby causing the program to display at least two candidate characters in the second functional area, wherein said at least two candidate characters are formed, at least in part, by a stroke represented by the desired stroke category; and

indicating which of the at least two candidate characters the user wants displayed in said first functional area.

selecting at least one of the options; and

wherein the first functional area displays candidate text symbols which comprise completed text symbols that have strokes associated with said first and second stroke categories and the second functional area displays selected text symbols; and

the display further comprises a stroke display area for displaying strokes within said first and second stroke categories, which are respectively identifiable by the first and second cardinal states.

2. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 1, wherein:

the first cardinal state is activated by applying a force to said indicator system to a first location;

the second cardinal state is activated by applying a force to said indicator system to a second location; and

the third cardinal state is activated by identifying a third location, the third location being located between the first location and the second location.

3. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 2, wherein a fourth cardinal state is activated by activating the first cardinal state and the third cardinal state.

4. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 2, wherein identifying the third location is accomplished by applying a force to said indicator system to the third location.

5. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 1, wherein the text symbol entry system has a first mode and a second mode, wherein;

when the text entry system is in the first mode, the first cardinal state has a textual meaning associated with it, and

when the text entry system in the second mode, the first cardinal state has a different meaning associated with it.

6. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 5, wherein the different meaning is a different textual meaning.

7. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 5, wherein the different meaning is not a textual meaning.

8. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 7, wherein the different meaning is a navigational meaning.

9. (Currently Amended) The text symbol entry system of claim 5, wherein moving from the first mode to the second mode is accomplished by applying a force to said indicator system to the third location.

10. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 5, wherein when the text symbol entry system is in the first mode, the first cardinal state is used to select a first category of text symbol and the second cardinal state is used to select a second category of text symbol.

11. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 1, wherein the first cardinal state is used to select a first category of text symbol and the second cardinal state is used to select a second category of text symbol.

12. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 11, wherein the first cardinal state is used to select a first category of text symbol and the second cardinal state is used to select a second category of text symbol, wherein the first category of text symbol includes symbols having a first feature and the second category of text symbol includes symbols having a second feature.

13. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 12, wherein a symbol having both the first feature and the second feature is included in both the first category and the second category.

14. (Previously Presented) The text symbol entry system of claim 1, wherein the indicator system includes a position indicator and selection of one of the cardinal states is accomplished by detecting a position of the position indicator.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of entering text symbols, comprising:

providing a display having a plurality of functional areas ~~first functional area and a second functional area~~ wherein ~~[[the]]~~ a first functional area displays candidate text symbols and ~~[[the]]~~ a second functional area displays selected text symbols and a third functional area displays at least a first stroke category and a second stroke category, and the display further comprises a stroke display area for displaying symbols identifiable by the first and second cardinal states;

providing an indicator system operable by one human digit, the indicator system having a first cardinal state ~~corresponding to a first stroke category~~, a second cardinal state ~~corresponding to a second stroke category~~, and a third cardinal state;

providing a processor operably connected to the indicator system;

activating the first cardinal state to indicate at least one desired stroke category from among the first stroke category and the second stroke category by moving the

indicator system into the first cardinal state or second cardinal state, thereby causing the program to display at least two candidate characters in the second functional area, wherein said at least two candidate characters are formed, at least in part, by a stroke represented by the desired stroke category; and

indicating which of the at least two candidate characters the user wants displayed in said first functional area

~~to the processor selection of a first category of text symbol to be entered, the first category including text symbols used to create text; and~~

~~displaying in the stroke display area a symbol of the first category.~~

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising displaying a representative symbol, the representative symbol corresponding to the first stroke category.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising displaying in the first functional area text having one of the symbols corresponding to the first stroke category.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

activating the second cardinal state to indicate to the processor selection of a second stroke category of text symbol to be entered, the second stroke category including symbols used to create text; and

displaying in the first functional area text having one of the symbols corresponding to the first stroke category and one of the symbols corresponding to the second stroke category.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising selecting the text symbol displayed in the first functional area.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, further comprising displaying the selected text symbol in the second functional area.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

displaying in the first functional area a first icon that represents text which has one of the symbols corresponding to the first stroke category; and

displaying in the first functional area a second icon that represents part of a text symbol, the first icon and the second icon having the same symbols.

22. (Currently Amended) A method of entering text symbols, comprising:

providing a display divided into a plurality of functional areas ~~having a first functional area and a second functional area~~ wherein a ~~[[the]]~~ first functional area displays candidate text symbols which comprise completed text symbols that have strokes associated with first and second stroke categories and a ~~[[the]]~~ second functional area displays selected text symbols, and the display further comprises a

stroke display area for displaying symbols identifiable by first and second cardinal states and a third functional area for displaying at least one stroke category and a second stroke category;

providing an indicator system operable by a human eye, the indicator system having a first cardinal state, a second cardinal state, and a third cardinal state;

providing a processor operably connected to the indicator system;

activating the first cardinal state to indicate to at least one desired stroke category from among the first stroke category and the second stroke category by moving the indicator system into the first cardinal state or second cardinal state, thereby causing the program to display at least two candidate characters in the second functional area, wherein said at least two candidate characters are formed, at least in part, by a stroke represented by the desired stroke category; and

indicating which of the at least two candidate characters the user wants displayed in said first functional area

the processor selection of a first stroke category to be entered, the first stroke category including symbols used to create a plurality of text symbols; and displaying in the stroke display area a symbol of the first category.

23. (Original) The method of claim 22, further comprising displaying a representative symbol, the representative symbol corresponding to the first category.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising displaying in the first functional area a text symbol having one of the symbols corresponding to the first category.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising:

activating the second cardinal state to indicate to the processor selection of a second stroke category to be entered, the second category including symbols used to create a plurality of text symbols; and

displaying in the first functional area a text symbol having one of the symbols corresponding to the first category and one of the symbols corresponding to the second category.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, further comprising selecting the text symbol displayed in the first functional area.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising displaying the selected text symbol in the second functional area.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

displaying in the first functional area a first icon that represents a text symbol which has one of the symbols corresponding to the first category; and

displaying in the first functional area a second icon that represents part of a text symbol, the first icon and the second icon having the same symbols.